

The Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) to aid teachers and students in keeping abreast of geography behind current news events.

GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

of
The National Geographic Society
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

The National Geographic Society is a non-profit educational and scientific Society established for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion.

VOLUME XXVI

February 2, 1948

NUMBER 16

1. St. Moritz Host to Winter Olympics
2. U. S.-Discovered Isle Occupied by Australia
3. UN Agreement Reached on Togoland Ewes
4. Trinidad Transships Surinam's Bauxite
5. Leaders' Promises Bring Delhi Hope of Peace



VOLKMAR WENTZEL

ONLY IN THE PRIVACY OF HIS HOME WOULD THIS SIKH BOY BARE HIS TOPKNOT

When his beard appears, it will grow untrimmed as has his hair. Sikhs, Hindu dissenters, never cut hair nor go unshaven. The Punjab is their homeland, but this lad lives in Delhi (Bulletin No. 5).

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St. Moritz Host to Winter Olympics

ST. MORITZ, Switzerland, international sports capital and host to the first postwar Winter Olympics, is a small town on the world's path into one of nature's scenic wonderlands.

Nestling more than a mile above sea level in the Alps' Upper Engadine Valley, St. Moritz is particularly favored for cold-weather fun by plenty of snow and by ideal terrain for skiing and tobogganing.

Near Austria and Italy

The town overlooks St. Moritz Lake, actually an expansion of the upper Inn River. Framed by wooded hills, with the great snow-shrouded giants rising in the background (illustration, next page), St. Moritz also provided the setting 20 years ago for the Winter Olympics.

The Engadine Valley lies in the southeast Alpine corner of Switzerland, not far from the Austrian and Italian frontiers.

In their white-painted stone villages, whose slim church spires cut the blue skies, the Engadine people are akin in many ways to their next-door neighbors. German and Italian are spoken, as well as a Romanish dialect that is a combination of the two.

Has "Leaning Tower"

The inhabitants of St. Moritz and the smaller settlements of the valley, however, have developed a culture all their own within the mountain-walled Engadine community. The St. Moritz Museum shows many examples of the old handicraft arts, medieval musical instruments, sleighs, furniture, and decorations.

One of the museum's exhibits is of hollowed old tree trunks that once served as pipes for carrying water to an early bathhouse. A landmark of the town is the "leaning tower" of the old church which was built there in 1573.

In both color and woolen warmth, the Engadine native dress is designed to meet the special conditions of the high and cold valley. Still produced and sold are distinctive embroidery, pottery, and fine wood carvings made from the abundant stone pine of the forests.

Summer Season also Attracts

St. Moritz, which has a permanent population of about 4,000, is more than a winter playground. Along the surrounding hill and mountain slopes where skis and sleds now cut their long, curving tracks, meltingtime brings out wild flowers in great profusion.

In the summer season, St. Moritz attracts many vacationists, who hike along the valley's wooded trails, play tennis or golf, row or swim, or take the "bath cure."

The Engadine has been known for its mineral waters and invigorating climate since Roman times. It was a pilgrimage point in the 15th century.



MEN AND MACHINES HAVE PUSHED BACK THE JUNGLE AND OPENED THE SURINAM EARTH TO GET AT THE VALUABLE BAUXITE

Surface mines at Moengo, in the east part of the South American country, furnish aluminum ore for United States smelters. The Cottica River, flowing by the mines, makes a pathway to the sea for small ocean-going ships. Before loading, the ore is crushed, washed, and dried. Bauxite is the chief export of Surinam (Bulletin No. 4).

U. S.-Discovered Isle Occupied by Australia

A DREARY string of islands—one of which, discovered by an American sea captain and shown on some maps as a United States possession—has been occupied by the Union of South Africa and Australia. Three of the reported landings were on Prince Edward, Marion, and Heard—bleak, uninhabited dots in the southern Indian Ocean—and one was on Macquarie, lying in a pocket of the Pacific southeast of Australia.

Heard Island, base for an Australian Antarctic expedition, was discovered and charted in 1853 by Captain John Jay Heard in the American bark *Oriental*. Although the United States never filed formal claim to the island, neither has it relinquished the rights of prior discovery.

Reached 7,000 Feet above the Sea

Twenty-five miles long and 11 miles wide at its broadest, Heard lies 2,450 miles southwest of Australia's nearest corner. It points toward France's Iles de Kerguelen, 200 miles northwest. Closer by are the three pinpoint Shag islets, a dozen miles north, and the three McDonald specks rising sharply from the sea 30 miles west.

Heard towers to 7,000 feet in central Big Ben Peak, which mariners have seen spewing smoke in years past. Glaciers crawl down its many valleys to the coast, forming overhangs that forbid close approach. Fair anchorages are afforded at points where low hills obstruct the glacial flow. A west wind blows at gale strength much of the year.

West across the lonely Indian Ocean from Heard and Kerguelen are spotted the Crozet group of five islands belonging to France, and the Prince Edward Islands. All are volcanic outcrops of submarine ridges. All are desolate piles of rock and rubble normally inhabited only by penguins.

The Prince Edward Islands lie 1,050 miles southeast of the nearest African coast. Labeled on most maps as British, they now are occupied by the Union of South Africa. There are two islands in the group—Prince Edward and Marion. Marion du Fresne, their discoverer in 1772, called them “Les Iles Froides”—the Frigid Isles. Captain James Cook sailed between them four years later and gave them their present names.

Not as Far South as They Seem

Prince Edward breaks the ocean in a four-by-five-mile oval a dozen miles northwest of somewhat larger Marion Island. The rounded summit of Prince Edward rises nearly a half-mile above the sea. Moss gives a green tinge to the rocky hills. The only suitable landing point is on the north shore of the island's eastern cape.

Though appearing on most maps to lie very far south, the groups are in the same average latitude as the United States-Canadian border. They are chilled, however, by broad streams of cold water moving northward from the Antarctic continent. Pack ice and icebergs are common sights in their waters. Even in summer, the temperature of the ocean stays close to the freezing point.

Perhaps because of their contacts with the outside world, many of the inhabitants of the Engadine Valley have sought their fortunes in other parts of Europe, returning home to spend their declining years.

NOTE: St. Moritz may be located on the National Geographic Society's map of Germany and its Approaches. Write the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C., for a price list of maps.

For additional information on Switzerland, see "Swiss Cherish Their Ancient Liberties," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for April, 1941*; "Lake Geneva: Cradle of Conferences," December, 1937; and "August First in Gruyères," August, 1936. (*Issues marked with an asterisk are included in a special list of Magazines available to teachers in packets of ten for \$1.00.*)



ALBERT STEINER

OLYMPIC CONTESTANTS AT ST. MORITZ MAY BE ABLE TO PICK A BOUQUET OF THESE ICE FLOWERS

Above the ice on St. Moritz Lake the feathery "winter blossoms" form after intense cold when vapor particles freeze and build up designs looking like tiny bomb explosions. The black circle is new ice, not water. After the contests here, the Olympics move to England for the summer games.

UN Agreement Reached on Togoland Ewes

THE United Nations Trusteeship Council has reached a compromise agreement on the petition of Ewe tribesmen to unify their lands. It has granted the west African people many privileges leading to self-government, but, for the present, has retained the boundary that divides their tribal territory between the mandates of French Togoland and British Togoland.

This ruling calls attention to an unusual situation involving the natives of Africa's west coast. Because of intricate boundary arrangements, the natives of the countries rimming Africa from the mouth of the Senegal River around the big bend to the eastern border of Nigeria are more easily classified by language than by country.

Narrow Trade Routes Extend Inland

This region, home of the true Negro, was developed by traders who sailed from Europe between the 15th and the 18th centuries. On the coast, they established ports from which to ship ivory, gold, grain, and the natives whom they captured to sell as slaves.

The long corridors leading from the ports to the mines, villages, and jungles in the interior cut the region into strips. Trade agreements between various nations complicated the boundaries of the colonies they founded, which include French and Portuguese Guinea; Britain's Gambia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast, and Nigeria; independent Liberia; and France's Dahomey and Ivory Coast.

The tribesmen were there long before the boundary lines were drawn. The similarity of their dialects and many of their customs still links individual tribes in groups more closely than do the superimposed political boundaries drawn by the white man.

Along the northern Gulf of Guinea coast, the language groups belong to the Sudanic family. Names of the various languages apply also to the people. The Twi-speaking natives of the Gold Coast share a number of customs, beliefs, and physical traits with the Ewes, and with the Yoruba tribes of Nigeria (illustration, next page).

Ewe Tribes Inhabit Several Colonies

Dark skin, broad noses, and kinky hair are characteristics common to the natives of the Guinea coast. Their huts have the same type of gable roofs. Instead of wearing animal skins, their clothing is fashioned of cloth made of palm fiber and vegetable bark. They shoot game with a bow strung with vegetable fiber, and do not use either slings or clubs. They keep dogs, chickens, pigs, and goats, but no cattle.

The tribes speaking the Ewe (pronounced ä-va) language and dialects live largely in southern Togoland. They also inhabit the region of the Gold Coast Colony east of the Volta River, France's Dahomey colony, and east to the Ogun River in Nigeria.

For centuries, the native kings of Dahomey maintained female troops. Armed with blunderbusses and razor-sharp knives, these women soldiers performed feats of endurance and ferocity in combat that gave them

Most distinctive in the scant vegetation of the southwestern Indian Ocean islands is the Kerguelen cabbage of the Kerguelen Islands. It probably reached this desolate spot in some manner from the Western Hemisphere. Once abundant, it was reduced by rabbits introduced on the large mainland island.

Macquarie Island (illustration, below), haunt of sealers since its discovery in 1810, lies 1,200 miles southeast of Australia's nearest point. It supports no trees, but grass grows luxuriantly over large areas. Being the only land for hundreds of miles in any direction, the 20-by-3-mile island attracts (as breeding grounds) amazing numbers of penguins, albatross, petrels, and various members of the seal family. The seals and penguins have been greatly reduced by the sealing industry. Fur seals were slaughtered for their furs; sea elephants, largest of the seal tribe, and penguins for their oil.

NOTE: Prince Edward, Marion, and Heard islands are shown on the Society's map of the Indian Ocean; these three, plus Macquarie, can be found on the map of the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.



SIR DOUGLAS MAWSON

PENGUIN OIL LURED THIS SHIP TO A LONELY DEATH ON UNINHABITED MACQUARIE ISLAND

Sir Douglas Mawson, British Antarctic explorer, summarized the first hundred years of Macquarie's history as a "tale of uncontrolled exploitation of the island's creatures on the one hand and of tragedy and hardship for the exploiters." Many ships, attracted by seal and penguin oil, have been wrecked on the rocky shores. In fact, the Australian sealers who first reported the existence of Macquarie in 1810 found the wreckage of a large vessel of ancient design on the island.

Trinidad Transships Surinam's Bauxite

TRINIDAD, well known for the black asphalt that flows from its bubbling pitch lake, is developing a new business. It handles, as a transportation middleman, the bauxite that is mined on the neighboring South American mainland in Surinam and British Guiana. Bauxite is the ore from which lightweight aluminum is extracted.

Paradoxically, no bauxite is mined on Trinidad. But because tidewater rivers are shallow in Surinam (Netherlands Guiana) and British Guiana, two small bays on Trinidad's coast serve as centers of bauxite storage and transshipment.

Ocean Bar Defies Deep Dredging

For many years shallow-draft steamers have taken on bauxite for the United States aluminum industry at Moengo (illustration, inside cover), 70 miles inland from the Surinam coast. Paranam, 25 miles up the Surinam River, is a newer mineside bauxite port.

Threading slowly downstream from such ports, the small ships cross the ocean bar which defies dredging deeper than 19 feet, and carry their cargoes 500 miles coastwise to Trinidad's Tembladora Bay, three miles west of Port of Spain, the capital.

Similarly, British ships carry bauxite from British Guiana river ports to Chaguaramas Bay, west of Tembladora. At ports which were no more than piers until World War II, the bauxite is transferred to cargo liners bound for North American and European ports.

United States Marines moved in to protect the Surinam mines from German depredation late in 1941. Bauxite production in the Guianas was quadrupled at the wartime peak. Liberty ships, pressed into bauxite service, picked up half loads at the mines, combined them at Trinidad to make full loads for the run north to the United States.

Bauxite Is to Trinidad What Oil Is to Aruba

Postwar bauxite production in the Guianas, although well below the 1943 peak, is far above the prewar volume. Transfer of cargo from river to ocean steamers cannot practically be eliminated. Consequently, Trinidad's Tembladora is being built into a big bauxite transfer and storage port. Shallow-draft ships, to be partly and perhaps entirely of aluminum construction, will make the best of river limitations.

Thus, on a smaller scale, bauxite is becoming to Trinidad what petroleum is to Aruba, tiny Netherlands island 580 miles west of Trinidad. Venezuela's crude oil has long been big business for the refineries of Aruba, which has no oil of its own.

Trinidad, second to Jamaica in size among the British West Indies, is a little smaller than Delaware. Discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1498, it passed from Spain to Great Britain by the Treaty of Amiens in 1802. Sugar and cocoa, like asphalt, are big exports. Port of Spain holds one-fifth of the island's 550,000 people.

Surinam became a part of the Netherlands overseas territory in

fame as Dahoman Amazons. The Ewes called them "the King's wives."

Kings for West Africa's native states were elected by and from the tribal chiefs. "Cabinets" of selected chiefs advised the rulers in many matters concerning the people. The Ewes are classed as true Negroes, although they are lighter skinned and rounder headed than the most representative Negro types.

In the rich, sandy soil of the coastal lowlands, the Ewes raise coconuts, cacao, coffee, tobacco, rice, and corn. Along their shores, slave traders once gathered their cargoes, sometimes finding native chiefs ready to barter the lives of their subjects for rum and trinkets.

Germany annexed Togoland in 1884. British and French forces captured the Maine-size colony in August, 1914. At the end of World War I, the League of Nations mandated the western third to Great Britain. It was administered by officials of the Gold Coast. The eastern two-thirds was mandated to France.

NOTE: Togoland and other regions inhabited by Sudanic language groups may be located on the Society's map of Africa.

For additional information, see "Nigeria: From the Bight of Benin to Africa's Desert Sands," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for May, 1944*; and "Timbuktu and Beyond," May, 1941.

See also, in the *GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS*, May 12, 1947, "Africa's Nigeria a Land of Many Languages."



KURT LUBINSKI

AN ADVANTAGE THIS YORUBAN ENJOYS OVER HER UNBURDENED FELLOWS IS THE SHADE SHE WALKS IN

Leaders' Promises Bring Delhi Hope of Peace

PROMISES of tolerance by Delhi's religious leaders bring hope of greater harmony among the Moslem, Hindu, and Sikh (illustration, cover) segments of the city's motley population. The old-new capital of the Dominion of India had been the scene of riots as Hindu refugees from Moslem Pakistan poured in.

On or near the site of the "Empress City," now free of empires, many capitals have flourished and waned. Some authorities count eight imperial centers in this area between the great Indus and Ganges river systems. Others say the list of Delhi's predecessors is unending and extends 35 centuries into the mists of antiquity.

Government Architecture Largely European

The last shift occurred in 1912 when the British seat of government was moved to New Delhi from Calcutta. Like Canberra, Australia, the new capital was a planned city. Rising south of the old settlement, it was officially inaugurated in 1931. Georges Clemenceau, French statesman, reputedly said that of all the capital cities on the site, British Delhi "will make the noblest ruins of all."

New Delhi's avenues are broad and shaded, its playgrounds are green, and its buildings, including the viceroy's palace and the colonnaded, circular Council House, are monumental. The architecture, largely of classical European design, is modified by Oriental features and adapted to the scorchingly hot summers by the use of open spaces and parkways.

Its builders never intended New Delhi to be used in the summer, as they assumed the annual peacetime hot-weather migration to Simla, on the cool Himalaya slopes, would continue.

In contrast to New Delhi, the streets of the old walled city are narrow and winding, and are dotted with mosques and Hindu temples. Through crowded old Delhi runs Chandni Chauk, the famous "Silver Street" of native bazaars. It is lined with little shops displaying Eastern offerings in gold and silver jewelry, embroideries and sweets, wood carvings, aromatic seeds and grain, and bright silken *saris*—the Indian women's graceful, flowing dresses.

This Is Paradise

The new city's main thoroughfares were planned to lead to such historic structures in the old Delhi section as the Jama Masjid, or Grand Mosque, and the imperial palace enclosure, with its gleaming Pearl Mosque and delicately decorated marble halls.

The old Mogul Hall of Private Audience, in which the Peacock Throne once stood, bears the noted Persian inscription, "If there be a paradise on earth, it is this, it is this, it is this."

South of New Delhi, the tapering Kuth Minar, or Victory Tower, has stood as a carved and fluted finger pointing to India's blue skies since about 1200. It was built by a Turki slave who became a conqueror and made Delhi the center of his Mohammedan empire.

1667 at the time England acquired New Amsterdam. It is about the size of New York State (which developed from the New Amsterdam colony) but has only one-seventieth as many people. Paramaribo, the capital (illustration, below), with about 70,000 inhabitants, contains more than one-third of Surinam's population.

Surinam originally was peopled by Carib Indians, of whom about 2,600 remain. Plantation owners brought in Negro slaves from Africa's west coast. Many revolted and escaped to the jungle to set up settlements almost indistinguishable from similar communities in the Congo. These Bush Negroes maintained their independence and in 1775 entered into a peace treaty with the government which has never been broken. They number about 19,000. There are more than 50,000 "Town Negroes," or Creoles, descendants of slaves who did not mutiny.

Slavery was abolished in 1863. In the 1870's British Indians were imported as plantation workers. Some of them were rebellious and in the 1890's docile Javanese were brought in. Today Surinam contains 46,000 British Indians and 34,000 Javanese. These groups maintain their native customs. The country has only 2,000 inhabitants of European descent.

NOTE: Surinam and Trinidad may be located on the Society's map of South America.

For additional information, see "Aruba and Curaçao on Guard," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for February, 1943; "Americans in the Caribbean," June, 1942*; and "British West Indian Interlude," January, 1941.*

See also, in the *GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS*, Jan. 19, 1948, "Aruba Is West Indies Success Story in Oil"; and "British West Indies Endorse Federation," Nov. 3, 1947.



JACOB GAYER

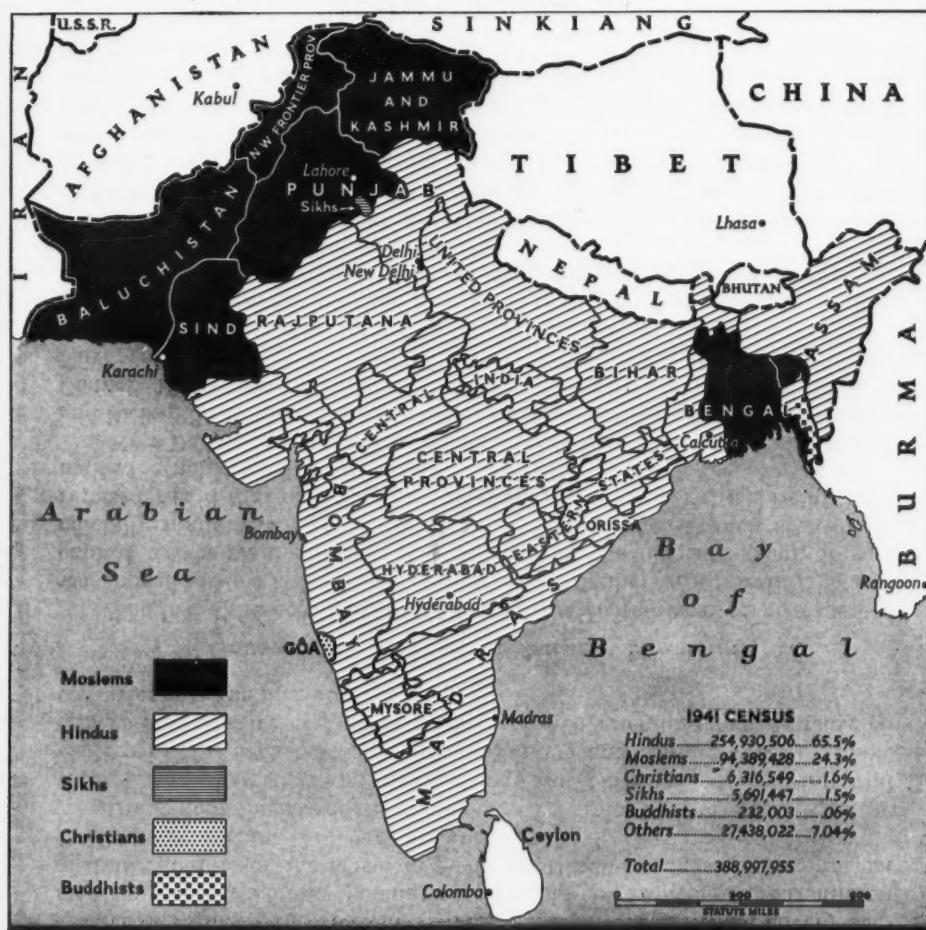
TYPICALLY DUTCH IS THE CLEANLINESS OF PARAMARIBO'S TRIM STREETS

Paramaribo's streets are a combination of Netherlands neatness and tropical glamor. Typical of the tropics are the jalousies—shutters formed from horizontal bars—that resemble Venetian blinds. The down-set slats admit the air but shut out the drenching rain and blazing sun of this Netherlands colonial town where the average temperature is 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

As a junction point on the plains between the wet rice lands of the east and the dry wheat country of the west, the various settlements on the Delhi site have been significant from the earliest times. In recent years, the combined population of the "two-in-one" city with the fabulous past has gone beyond the million mark. New Delhi, built to contain 70,000 people, now holds 213,000. About 940,000 people have crowded into old Delhi, literally bursting its ancient walls. The south wall has been partly dismantled to give room for expansion.

NOTE: Delhi may be located on the Society's map of India and Burma.

For further information, see "Delhi, Capital of a New Dominion," in the *National Geographic Magazine*, November, 1947; "India Mosaic," April, 1946; and "New Delhi Goes Full Time," October, 1942.



POLITICAL BOUNDARIES OF INDIA'S TWO DOMINIONS CLOSELY FOLLOW RELIGIOUS LINES

Pakistan, the Moslem dominion, includes roughly the two widely separated areas in black, with the exception of Jammu and Kashmir in the north. The rest of the vast peninsula, except Hyderabad, Goa, and a few tiny French enclaves, comprises the Hindu Dominion of India. Jammu and Kashmir and Hyderabad, large native states, have remained independent. Goa is a Portuguese colony.

